Sub-committee of National Development Council

1356. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a sub-committee of the National Development Council (Lanthan Wala Committee) has suggested that an educational cess be levied on the urban and rural sources of revenue and various incomes and properties;

(b) if so, whether the universities are likely to overcome their financial crisis as a result thereof;

(c) whether any, decision has been taken on the recommendation of the Committee by Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The terms of reference of the Committee do not include issues pertaining to University/Higher Education and are confined to the field of literacy.

(c) to (e) The Report was placed before the National Development Council and the Council inter-alia had considered the report. Endorsing the recommendations of the Literacy Report, the National Developmnet Council Committee directed that a meeting of Chief Ministers should be convened for further discussions and to work out an Action Plan for effective implementation of the recommendations.

Meeting of the National Development Council

1357. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the meeting of the National Development Council was held in Delhi recently; and

(b) if so, what are the reports of the panels discussed by it and the conclusions arrived at on the panel reports with details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Forty Sixth Meeting of the National Development Council was held in New Delhi on 18th September, 1993 under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister.

(b) The Reports of four NDC sub-Committees on Employment, Population, Literacy and Micro-level Planning and Involvement of People at Grass-root Level and also a paper on "Education for all" were discussed in the meeting. The NDC endorsed the recommendations of its above mentioned sub-Committees, and directed the nodal ministries viz. Human Resource Development for Literacy and Education for all, Health & Family Welfare for Population and Planning Commission for Micro-level Planning and Employment generation to initiate further action.

Demand of Funds for Gujarat Electricity Board

1358. SHRI CHIMAN BHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat have requested for a certain amount from the Union Government for the Gujarat Electricity Board;

(b) if so, the amount provided by the Planning Commission to the Board for the implementation of various small/medium hydel power projects during the year 1993-94 and 1994-95 and so on date; and

(c) the percentage of the amount released so far in each year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) The Central Government has been normally providing block Plan assistance to the State for

their Plans according to formula approved by National Development Council. Central assistance has not been allocated specifically to Gujarat State Electricity Board.

(b) There is only one on-going hydro electric project in the State of Gujarat namely Kadana Stage II (2×60 MW). The approved outlay for this project for the year 1993-94 is Rs. 40 crores. The approved Power Sector outlay for Gujarat for 1993-94 is Rs. 466.40 crores, 1994-95 proposals are yet to be finalised.

(c) Does not arise.

Release of Grants for Punjab

1359. SHRI IQBAL SINGH : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have released full amount of grants sanctioned for the annual plan of Punjab ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) to (c) Central Assistance and loans and grants for financing Anual Plans of States are released on monthly basis. The amounts allocated and releases so far itemwise to the Government of Punjab during 1993-94 for financing Annual Plan 1993-94 are as under :

(Rs. in crores)

Item	Amount allocated	Amount released so far
1. Normal Central Assistance . . .	159.52	199.25
2. Special term loan .	939.00	652.20
3. Additional Central Assistance for externally aided projects .	142.07	32.75
4. Loan against small savings collections .	250.00	199.12
5. Plan Revenue Deficit Grant . . .	12.40	9.27

Development Projects Related to Assam

1360. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of developmental projects related to Assam which are pending with Government for clearance; and

(b) by when these projects are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) and (b) No developmental projects of the State are pending in the Planning Commission for investment clearance.

Existence of District Planning Boards in the States

1361. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Planning Commission has noted the existence of District Planning Boards in many states;

(b) whether the Planning Commission consulted or sought views of such Boards in the formulation of the plan and its targets;

(c) whether Planning Commission have initiated any steps to take into consideration the total requirements of the village as a unit in finalising plans;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) to (d) Planning Commission has been impressing upon State Governments to prepare district plans since Fourth Five Year Plan (1969—74). Most of the States have already set up District level planning and monitoring bodies such as District Planning Boards, District Development Councils, etc., which